

**REMARKS**

Receipt of the Office Action mailed April 18, 2007 is acknowledged. Claim 21 has been amended. Support for the amendment to claim 21 can be found throughout the original disclosure, for example, at page 18, lines 3-21 and in original Figures 10 and 11. The specification and abstract of the disclosure have also been amended. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 21, 22, 24, 25 and 30 will be pending in the application. No new matter is believed to be entered.

**Claim Objections**

The objection to claim 21 is believed to be overcome by the amendment to claim 21 set forth above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

**Drawings**

Applicants point out that the reference character " $\alpha$ " is described in the specification at 12, lines 6 and 7; page 13, lines 6-10 and page 14, lines 1 and 2. The reference character "A" is described in the specification at page 13, lines 6-10. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

**35 U.S.C. Section 112, First Paragraph Rejections**

Claims 21, 22, 24, 24, 25 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. While applicants do not concede to the correctness of the rejection, independent claim 21 has been amended to overcome the rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

**35 U.S.C. Section 112, Second Paragraph Rejections**

Claims 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the amendment to claim 21, applicants submit the rejections set forth in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the Office Action are hereby overcome.

In paragraph 17, the Examiner questions the other component of the agglutination reaction. Applicants point out the other component is the "liquid sample" as recited in claim 21. Thus, the components include liquid sample and agglutinating reagent. Applicants respectfully submit that it is sufficiently clear that the agglutinated and non-agglutinated material will result from the liquid sample and agglutinating reagent. Reciting any specific component is not required as an essential step.

The rejections set forth in paragraphs 18 and 19 are believed to be overcome by the amendment to claim 21. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The examination of these claims and passage to allowance are respectfully requested. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (732) 524-1496 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 10-0750/CDS0255/TJB. This sheet is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

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